

REMARKS

Claims 1-7 and 9-11 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 9 are amended to clarify the recited features. No new matter is added.

The courtesies extended to Applicants' representative by Examiner Bashaw at the interview held March 4, 2008, are appreciated. The reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action are incorporated into the remarks below, which constitute Applicants' record of the interview.

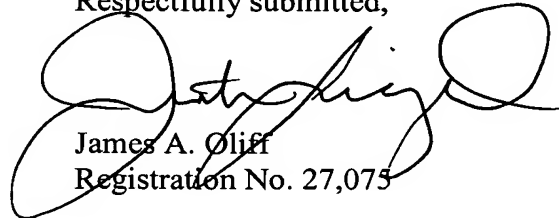
As tentatively agreed during the interview, and as discussed in the February 28, 2008 Amendment, Heitlinger et al., U.S. Patent No. 4,324,546 does not disclose any feature/step that can reasonably be considered to correspond to providing a preparation comprising a first anchor and a connecting portion connected to the first anchor, scanning at least the connecting portion of the preparation, and forming a physical model on the connecting portion to produce a pontic, as recited in independent claim 1.

Further, as discussed during the interview with the Examiner, the preamble of claim 1 is amended to recite: "A method of manufacturing a dental prosthesis". Claim 9 is amended to be consistent with amended claim 1. Thus, claim 1 and dependent claims 2-7 and 9-11 are patentable, as discussed in the February 28 Amendment.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James A. Oliff', is written over the typed name and registration number.

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Date: March 24, 2008

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